MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The whole region is generally under water, during high floods.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will not the opening of the sluice increase the floods and the damage due to floods, in the region lower down the river?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): I do not think there would be substantial increase of the flood-level on account of the opening of the sluice.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Am I to understand that the level is the same throughout the region lower down the river?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): I did not say so. What I say is that whatever be the damage caused, it is the inevitable result of floods and that the opening of the sluice does not substantially aggravate the situation.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): But the opening of the sluice is done by human agency, and so can be avoided.

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): I say there is no harm in opening the sluice, because it is opened slowly and gradually, and that only during high floods when damage is inevitable, whether the sluice, is opened or not.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Who is to be held responsible for the damage caused by the opening of the sluice, however little such damage may be?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): I have already stated that no appreciable damage would be caused by the opening of the sluice. And, the people are given previous notice.

Taking over for departmental maintenance the ryots' road connecting the Vazhakulam-Vazhittala road with the Todupuzha-Pala road.

328. **MR. K. P. ABRAHAM** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they received any petition in Makaram 1107 from the Road Board Committee in Arikuzha, Manakad pakuthi, Todupuzha taluk, for recognition and maintenance by Government of a six mile ryots' road constructed by the petitioners and others and connecting the Vazhakulam-Vazhittala road with the Todupuzha—Pala road near the Todupuzha bridge; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the action taken on that petition and the decision made on it?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer for disposal.

V. H. schools in the State.

329. **MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of V. H. schools in the State at present (16-11-1107)?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Six.

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MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*): ആറ പള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നപറയുന്നതു മുഴുവൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറ സ്കൂളുകളാണൊ, അതൊ പ്രൈവറ (aided) സ്കൂളുകളും ഉണ്ടൊ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Four Government institutions and two aided institutions.

MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*): ഈ നാല ഗവണ്മെൻറ സ്കൂളുകളുടെയും എവിടെയെല്ലാമാണ്?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേഷൻ റിപ്പോർട്ട മുഴുവനും ഞാൻ വായിച്ചു നോക്കിയിട്ടില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇപ്പോൾ പറയുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*): Aided schools എവിടെയെല്ലാമാണെന്നു പറയാമൊ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): അതും നിശ്ചയമില്ല.

Organisation of Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies in the State.

330. MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they propose to organise Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies in Travancore on the lines of the societies in British India; and

(*b*) whether they have taken any action in the matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) No, as such societies should be started by private philanthropic agencies. Government would be prepared to afford facilities to any such body in the State.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): May I know by whom such societies have been started in British India?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): By philanthropic private individuals, I suppose.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): Has that been actually ascertained by the Government.

MR. K GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No. I presume that all over the world these societies are organised and carried on by philanthropic private individuals.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): Are the Government sure that the societies have been *started* by private individuals?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chef Secretary to Government*): Government have not ascertained that.

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